

REMARKS

III. Claim Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,167,104 to Bond ("Bond") in view of US Patent 6,068,305 to Meyers ("Meyers").

Claim 6 requires, "a lock configured to move between a locked position blocking movement of the door from the closed position and an unlocked position permitting movement of the door from the closed position, the lock including a first interactive member, a second interactive member, and a motor configured to power unlocking of the door, the second interactive member being configured to move relative to the first interactive member during at least a portion of the locking of the door absent power from the motor, wherein the lock further includes a biaser positioned to urge the first and second interactive members into contact." In the rejection, the Official Action identifies the solenoid 30 generally as the lock. Furthermore, the Official Action combines Bond and Meyers such using the motor of Meyers to take the place of the solenoid 30 mechanism of Bond. First, the solenoid mechanism of Bond, when retracted, allows a handle 8 to extend, it does not permit movement of the door. Accordingly, the solenoid (or the solenoid replaced by a motor of the proposed combination) fails to anticipate "a lock configured to move between a locked position blocking movement of the door from the closed position and an unlocked position permitting movement of the door from the closed position." Second, the identified biaser, spring 40 of Bond, is part of the solenoid mechanism. Solenoids induce movement of a rod in a first direction without the ability to independently urge the rod in an opposite direction. Accordingly, the spring 40 is needed to have a working solenoid mechanism. The proposed combination involves removing the solenoid and replacing it with a motor from Meyers. Such a replacement removes the spring 40. Furthermore, no such biaser is shown to be present in the motor of Meyers. Accordingly, the proposed lock does not "move between a locked position blocking movement of the door from the closed position and an unlocked position permitting movement of the door from the closed position" and fails to include a "biaser." Thus, the proposed combination fails to teach every limitation of claim 6. Removal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

IV. Conclusion

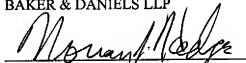
Applicants submit that all claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. Such allowance is respectfully requested.

If necessary, please consider this a Petition for Extension of Time to effect a timely response. Please charge any additional fees or credits to the account of Baker & Daniels Deposit Account No. 02-0390.

In the event that there are any questions related to these amendments or to the application in general, the undersigned would appreciate the opportunity to address those questions directly in a telephone interview to expedite the prosecution of this application for all concerned.

Respectfully submitted,

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